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PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS.

QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING, held at the Society's Apartments, William-street, Kilkenny, on Wednesday, April 17th (by adjournment from the 3rd), 1867.

The Rev. SAMUEL PENROSE in the Chair.

The following new Members were elected :—

Sir Denham Jephson Norreys, Bart., Mallow Castle : Colonel Meadows Taylor, M. R. I. A., Old Court, Harold's Cross, Dublin ; W. H. S. Westropp, Esq., M. R. I. A., 2, Idrone-terrace, Blackrock, Dublin ; J. H. Jephson, Esq., 16, Adelaide-street, Kingstown ; Joseph O'Kelly, Esq., M. R. I. A., 51, Stephen's-green, Dublin ; and George Henry Kinahan, Esq., Geological Survey of Ireland, 51, Stephen's-green, Dublin : proposed by George V. Du Noyer, Esq.

The Right Hon. Richard More O'Farrell, Ballyna House, Enfield ; Denis Shine Lalor, Esq., J. P., Grenagh, Killarney ; and Daniel O'Connell, Esq., J. P., Derrynane Abbey, county of Kerry : proposed by John P. Prendergast, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.

The Rev. Benjamin W. Adams, D. D., M. R. I. A., Cloghran Rectory, Drumcondra, county Dublin : proposed by the Rev. James Graves.

Thomas Alexander Thompson, Esq., M. D., Carrickfergus : proposed by Dr. Colles L. Anderson, Liverpool.

Richard Culley, Esq., 3 Monument-place, Liverpool ; John Middleton, Esq., St. Francis Abbey, Kilkenny ; and Mr. Caleb Payne, Wellington-place, Kilkenny : proposed by Mr. J. G. A. Prim.

Mr. James O'Brien, Jenkinstown : proposed by Mr. John Hogan.

The Auditors brought up their Report on the Treasurer's Account for the year 1865, as follows :—

CHARGE.

		£	s.	d.
1865.				
Jan. 1.	To balance in Treasurer's hands,	129	14	7½
Dec. 31.	Annual Subscriptions, including those to Illustration Fund,	238	18	4
	„ Life Compositions,	15	10	0
	„ One year's rent of Jerpoint Abbey,	1	0	0
	„ Sale of Woodcuts,	5	5	0
	„ Sale of "Journal" to Members,	1	18	6
	„ Donation from Daniel Mac Carthy, Esq., towards printing the Life and Letters of Florence Mac Carthy,	11	15	6
	„ Gold Ring sold to the British Museum, . .	4	0	0
		<hr/>		
		£408	1	11½

DISCHARGE.

		£	s.	d.
1865.				
Dec. 31.	By postages of "Journal,"	20	8	9
	„ „ circulars and general correspondence,	10	3	8
	„ Cost of Illustrations for "Journal,"	35	15	0
	„ „ of printing, &c., of "Journal" for four quarters, ending October, 1865,	78	4	11
	„ General printing and stationery,	12	12	9
	„ Commission to Dublin Collector,	1	15	6
	„ Sundry expenses,	9	9	6
	„ Carriage of parcels,	0	13	1
	„ Purchase of back numbers of the "Journal," &c.,	9	7	0
	„ Rent and caretaker, Jerpoint Abbey,	2	0	0
	„ Rent and insurance of Museum,	14	12	0
	„ Transcribing original documents,	4	15	0
	„ Cash paid on account of repairs at Clonmacnoise,	11	17	1
	„ Balance in Treasurer's hands,	196	7	8½
		<hr/>		
		£408	1	11½

We have examined the above Accounts with the Vouchers, and have found them correct, and that there is a balance of £196 7s. 8½d. in the hands of the Treasurer.

J. G. ROBERTSON, }
P. A. AYLWARD, } Auditors.

April 13, 1867.

Mr. Robertson reported that he had found, on a recent inspection of the tower of the Franciscan Abbey, Kilkenny, that during the past few months several new cracks and fissures had taken place, the result of the last winter's severe frost, apparently, which he was

apprehensive were of a character likely to endanger the stability of that very light and graceful structure.

All the members present expressed great regret that any danger should be considered to exist of the falling of this fine belfry tower, and were most anxious that something might be done, if possible, to prevent such a catastrophe; and, on the suggestion of the Rev. Mr. Graves, Mr. Robertson was requested to make another and more careful inspection of the building, and to report to the Committee of the Society whether any and what steps might be taken, such as would conduce to the preservation of the tower.

The following presentations were received, and thanks voted to the donors:—

By the Publisher: "The Builder," Nos. 1241–1254, inclusive.

By the Publisher: "The Gentleman's Magazine," for January, February, and March, 1867.

By the Very Rev. the Dean of Ossory, President of the Society: a stone in which a cup-shaped hollow had been formed (similar to other specimens in the Museum, supposed to have served as rude lamps), and which seemed to have undergone some kind of vitrifying process. It was found in the cemetery of St. Canice's Cathedral, in the place at which indications had previously been discovered of an encaustic tile manufactory having been anciently carried on.

By Mr. J. Middleton: a number of boars' tusks, which had been dug up in making some improvements at his then residence, Suir Villa, Newtown, near Waterford. They were found resting on the rock, beneath three feet of yellow clay.

By the Rev. N. R. Brunskill: a very beautiful specimen of the Cronabane halfpenny, of 1789, which had been gilt. Also a gilt medal of the regency, during the insanity of George III., of the same year.

By Mr. Grady, Stonyford: a copper counterfeit six shilling Bank of Ireland Token, of the year 1804, of very admirable execution.

By Mr. C. Faulkner, F. S. A.: rubbings of two decorative tiles from St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. The originals were of a dark colour from hard burning, indented, and had been highly glazed. The patterns were similar to some of the old flooring tiles of St. Canice's Cathedral.

By Mr. Kyran Molloy, Seven Churches, Clonmacnoise: a rubbing of a small altar stone, which the Rev. Dr. Todd, S. F., T. C. D., had discovered in the burying ground there during a visit recently paid to the Seven Churches by that eminent archæologist. The stone was inscribed with five crosses, as usual on ancient altars.

Mr. Robertson exhibited a rare silver medal, of very beautiful

execution, lent to him for the purpose by Joseph Greene, Esq., Lakeview, who had found it amongst the effects of the late Sir J. Newport. It was commemorative of one of the French refugees in England, of the period of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Robert Day, Jun., Cork, sent a model of a bronze leaf-shaped sword, in his possession, nearly two feet long, the noticeable feature of which was its possessing a handle which Professor Owen pronounced to be the bone of a mammal, probably a cetacian. Mr. Day asked for information as to the size which it might be convenient to have it photographed, for an illustration in the Society's "Journal," of which he wished to bear the expense himself in part.

The Secretary undertook to communicate with Mr. Day on the subject.

In reply to a letter of the Rev. Mr. Graves, respecting the cap-stone of the conical top of Ardmore Round Tower, county of Waterford, blown off in the storm which took place at the end of February last, Mr. R. R. Brash, Architect, Cork, wrote as follows:—

"The Ardmore cap-stone presents nothing to photograph. The conical top of the tower was finished by two stones, or what was probably one stone originally, but which had opened in a vertical joint by the action of the weather. The stone is about 16 inches high; and I don't think it likely the old builders would have made the finish with an upright joint. The surface is very much weather-worn and disintegrated, but has no sign of carving or tool marks whatever; there is a sort of welt, or slightly raised ridge on one of the stones, but this is caused by the action of the weather, leaving a hard part of the stone prominent; the top is rounded and worn, but there is no appearance of a mortice or any preparation for holding a cross (such as is said to have surmounted the cap) or any other finish; and there could have been none, as the stone now described was the sole finish the tower had. The rest of the cap of the tower is in a very shaky state. I hope Mr. Odell, the proprietor, will take some steps to preserve it from further destruction."

Mr. Bracken, County Inspector, said he was quite sure, from Mr. Odell's well-known taste and public spirit, that gentleman would take the utmost care of the tower.

Mr. Robertson exhibited a rare Saxon silver coin, in beautiful preservation, which had been recently dug up by a poor man who had brought it to the Rev. Vernon R. Drapes, Rector of Durrow, wishing that its value might be ascertained; and Mr. Drapes was anxious to have it sold to the best advantage, for the finder's benefit. He (Mr. Robertson) was at once able to identify it as a rare coin of Offa, King of Mercia, who flourished A. D. 747. On the obverse was "✚ OFFA REX;" on the reverse, the name of "✚ IBBA."

Mr. Graves made some remarks on the interest attaching to the discovery of Saxon coins in Ireland.

The Rev. V. R. Drapes, to whom Mr. Robertson had remitted the sum he had obtained for this rare coin, on behalf of the finder, gave the following account of its discovery:—

“The coin of Offa was found by a man named John Curran, in a field, of which he is tenant, in the Queen’s County, about five miles from Rathdowney. The field is six acres in extent, and is surrounded by a fence nearly circular. In the middle of the field are the ruins of a church standing in a graveyard. The graveyard was surrounded by a wall, of which the ruins were removed about twenty-seven years ago. The name of the townland is Bawnaughragh; outside the limits of the graveyard there have been, and still are found throughout the field continually, human bones, and the tradition in that locality is, that a battle had been fought on that field. The coin was turned up when a portion of the circular fence was being levelled. The happy finder of the coin could scarcely believe the pound notes to be real, when I handed him the sum you obtained for it, viz., £2 12s. 6d.”

The following papers were submitted to the Members:—

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OF THOMAS DINELEY, ESQUIRE, GIVING SOME ACCOUNT OF HIS VISIT TO IRELAND IN THE REIGN OF CHARLES II.

COMMUNICATED BY EVELYN PHILIP SHIRLEY, ESQ., M. A., WITH
NOTES BY THE HON. ROBERT O'BRIEN, AND THE REV. JAMES
GRAVES.

(Continued from Vol. V., *New Series*, p. 446.)

GENTLEMENS Seats, Castles, and Places near this Town, are these following, viz., within a quarter of [a] mile.

That Castle belonging to Henry Ivers,¹ Esq., well scituate and capable of very considerable improvement, a draught whereof I took on the other side this leaf. It is five miles and three quarters distant from Limerick.

¹ Henry Ivers, Gent., appears in Dr. Petty’s Census, 1659, as a “Titulado” at Ballymolony, in the parish of Killokennedy.

On 21st June, 30th Chas. II., he obtained a patent of Ballyluddane East, adjoining Six Mile Bridge, with power to hold a Saturday market, and two fairs yearly on part of the land called Ballyrella, *alias* Mount Ivers.

By this patent, and others bearing date 17th June, 19th Chas. II., and 27th November, 30th Chas. II., he was granted altogether 5773 acres, statute measure profitable, which carried a larger extent of unprofitable acres. In 1668 he

was appointed agent to Colonel Daniel O’Brien, 3rd Viscount Clare, from whom he obtained leases of a considerable extent of land.

He was married to the daughter of Captain Stephens, of Ballysheen, in the county Clare, and was appointed Justice of the Peace for that county in 1669, and High Sheriff in 1673. He was succeeded by his son John, who was elected Member of Parliament for the county in 1715.

Although the great bulk of the estate has passed away from the family, yet his descendant, Robert Ivers, Esq., still resides at Mount Ivers.—O’B.